TOWN OF LOS ALTOS HILLS
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NEWSLETTER

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Home Construction Increases in 1987

Los Altos Hills issued building permits for 42 new homes in 1987, six more than the 36 in 1986.

Most other building activities also increased in 1987. Here is a list of the building permits:

	1987	1986
Additions	59	53
Interior Remodeling	28	17
Swimming Pools	16	15
Tennis Courts	1	5
Re-roofing	44	33

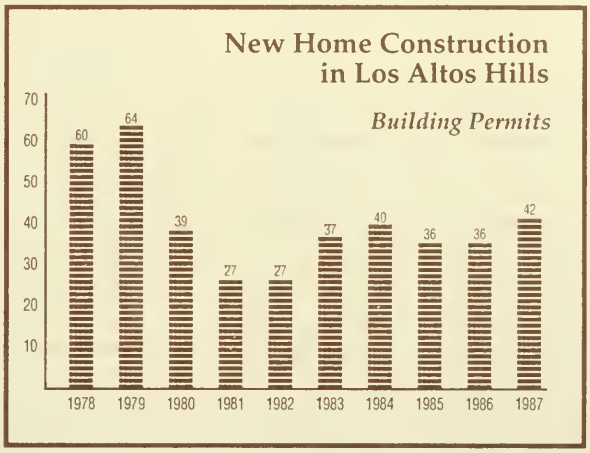
The sale of existing houses increased to 121 in 1987, compared with 83 in 1986, and the total sales volume grew from $48.7 million in 1986 to $88.4 million in 1987.

The average home sold was $587,163 in 1986, and in 1987, the average rose to $696,099.

Despite the addition of new homes in the hills each year, the town's population is not expected to grow substantially, according to projections by the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG). There are only a few hundred unimproved building sites left in the town, and the size of the average household is expected to decline.

The current population of Los Altos Hills is about 8,000 and an additional 1,300 people live in unincorporated areas considered to be within the sphere of Los Altos Hills, for a total population of 9,300. By the year 2005, ABAG predicts the population will have grown to only 9,800 people.

The ABAG study predicts that in the year 2005, 83 percent of the adults in Los Altos Hills will be employed in services, which includes the categories of professional and medical services, entertainment, repair shops and business personnel. This figure compares with 26 percent of the people countywide being employed in services.



Construction of new homes, such as this one, increased during 1987.

Eight People Run for City Council

Los Altos Hills residents will choose between eight people seeking three seats on the City Council and vote on one ballot measure relating to the Adobe Creek Lodge property in the election April 12.

Two candidates nights have been scheduled in the City Council Chambers, 26379 Fremont Road, March 15 by the Horseman's Association and March 22 by the League of Women Voters. Both will be at 7:30 p.m.

City Councilman William Siegel, a retired attorney appointed to the Council in October 1986, is seeking re-election, but James Plummer and Louise Dronkert have decided not to run.

The other candidates are:

- Toni Casey, marketing consultant
- Stephen Gaither, real estate investor
- Robert Johnson, retired engineer
- Richard Jones, retired software engineer
- Clyde Noel, retired manufacturing executive
- Leda Patmore, software analyst
- Luis Yanez, management consultant

Measure B, the Adobe Creek Lodge Initiative sponsored by Mr. Gaither, would create a new zoning district in Los Altos Hills called "Senior Residential Community" and amend portions of the Town's General Plan.

Committee Comment

Neighborhood Emergency Networks

If you don't know what a Neighborhood Emergency Network is, or whether you have one, or who the coordinator is, you should call us to find out. If need be, we can help set up a coffee meeting with your neighbors to explain how the networks are organized.

Neighborhood Emergency Networks help people look out for each other and prepare for earthquakes or other disasters. Crime statistics are down in Los Altos Hills. Let's keep it that way.

Ruth Buneman
Safety Committee Chairman
948-2519

Betsy Bertram
Disaster Subcommittee Chairman
941-6513

Horticulturist Wanted

The Environmental Design and Protection Committee is seeking a 7th member and hopes a volunteer with experience in horticulture or landscaping will come forward.

Committee members review plans for new houses to judge how the improvements conform to the environment. They may recommend ways to protect existing vegetation, types of trees to be planted and ways to mitigate impact on neighbors.

Persons interested in serving on the committee should contact the city staff about applications, 942–7222.

Town Inventories Assets

The Finance Committee is extremely pleased that its goal of obtaining an "unqualified" auditor's approval of the Town financial records has been achieved.

One of the items auditors have noted as causing qualified approval has been the Town's lack of a comprehensive inventory of its capital assets. The Town staff has now completed this inventory and will keep it current.

The Finance Committee also is pleased to announce that it has two new members, Philip Dauber and Frank Lloyd. Dr. Dauber also is a member of the Pathways, Recreation and Parks Committee.

Reception for New Residents

The Community Relations Committee hosted a reception for new residents February 28 in Heritage House at Town Hall. This is the second year that a Newcomers Party had been held by the Town, and it is to be an annual event.

The committee prepares a Newcomers Packet, which includes a book on Los Altos Hills, a map, and a book from the Los Altos Chamber of Commerce.

Elected officials and representatives of the Town's volunteer committees met with the new residents.

★★★ ***Remember to Vote April 12*** ★★★

Residents to be Surveyed

A 15-member General Plan Steering Committee is considering what issues to include in a survey of all Hills residents. The Town may hire a consultant to assist in the survey's preparation to ensure that the results will be useful and valid in determining how most residents would like to see the Town develop.

The committee encourages community involvement throughout the General Plan update process, which is expected to be completed in the summer of 1989.

Anyone with questions or suggestions about the General Plan may contact Lori Scott at Town Hall, 942-7222. Ms. Scott is a planning consultant with the firm of Martin Carpenter Associates, and she has worked with the Town for several years.

Clean-Up Day Set for March

The Los Altos Garbage Company will offer free pickup of trash for its customers at five locations from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 12.

The locations are:

- Town Hall Parking Lot
- Magdalena at Interstate 280
- Foothill College Parking Lot A
- Altamont Road at Black Mountain Road
- Page Mill Road at Arastradero Road.

Additional clean-up days will be held the second Saturdays of June, September and December.

Los Altos Libraries Improve Services, Collections

The Santa Clara County Libraries in Los Altos have updated and enhanced their collections of new books, tape-recorded books, biographies and research materials with money provided by the 1985 property tax override election.

A survey conducted last year found users of the Main Library 3 to 1 in favor of more evening hours and Sunday hours, so the library is now open Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday 1 to 5 p.m.

Woodland Library users were divided on wanting late morning or early evening hours, so the Woodland hours were established as Monday through Wednesday, 1 p.m. to 8 p.m., and Thursday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

In response to other results of the survey, the libraries have added these collections and services:

- New computer and investment magazines
- Video cassettes that can be checked out
- InfoTrac, a database to search magazines
- Bedtime Stories, a program for children
- Financial and other seminars for adults.

In addition, the Friends of the Library have provided funds for a library computer that can be used by the public.

The North County Library Authority, whose members represent Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, and adjacent unincorporated areas, has established the override tax rate of $33 per parcel this year.

Two Major Annexations Under Review

A series of public hearings has begun to consider applications for annexation of two large areas adjacent the Town.

The first of these areas is San Antonio Hills (West) at the southeastern end of the Town. This area is largely developed and has 275 homes.

The second application, Quarry Hills, is for 360 undeveloped acres that include the quarry off Stonebrook Avenue. DeAnza Properties, the owner, proposes to construct 43 homes on the property.

The public hearings will be announced in local newspapers. The hearings also will be announced by the Town's Dial-Agenda recording, which can be reached by phoning 941-7225.

County Recorder Opens New Office

The Santa Clara County Recorder's Office is offering services on Wednesdays and Thursdays at the Los Altos Main Library, 13 South San Antonio Road. The hours are 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and noon to 8 p.m. on Thursdays.

An employee of the Recorder's Office will be on hand to check official records to produce copies of marriage, birth or death certificates.

Town Staff Changes

William Ekern has been promoted to Director of Public Works for the Town of Los Altos Hills.

Michael Enright, formerly Los Altos Hills City Engineer, is now working for the City of Piedmont, and City Planner Nancy Lytle has taken a position with the City of Palo Alto.

Engineering services for the Town are now being provided by the consulting firm of Wilsey & Ham, and interviews are being conducted for a new city planner.

Attention MCI Subscribers

If you make use of MCI's long-distance telephone service, be aware that since July the company has again been basing state and local tax computations on zip codes. As a result, Los Altos Hills residents have been paying the utility tax imposed by Los Altos on its residents.

Anyone having difficulty getting his account credited for the improper charges and modified to eliminate them in the future should call John Melaragni of MCI's customer service department at 978-2119.

All residents, no matter which long-distance service they use, should check to be certain they are not being improperly charged a local utility tax.

Indian Exhibit at Town Hall

An exhibit of North American Indian baskets, paintings, pottery and artifacts is being shown in the City Council Chambers, 26379 Fremont Road.

The exhibit is open to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and will continue through March.

The largest collection in the exhibit belongs to Town Historian Rosemary Meyerott, who received her first silver Navajo bracelet in 1927. Artifacts from archeological digs in Santa Clara County have been loaned from the collection of Florence Fava, who was the Town's first historian.

This exhibit has been assembled by Marjorie Kellogg, Town Curator.

Sheriff's Corner

Burglars Active

In recent months, there have been a series of residential burglaries in Los Altos Hills and surrounding communities which are being committed by a group of three or four individuals. They have been described as males and females who appear to be of Mediterranean extraction. The suspects park their vehicles close by and walk up to residences where they assume no one is at home. They knock on the front door and on occasion will go to the rear door. If confronted, they will ask for some fictional person or explain that they are looking for a lost pet. On two occasions, the homeowners left shortly after one of these encounters, only to return and find they had been burglarized.

If a stranger requests to come into your home to use your telephone, ask them to wait outside and offer to make the call for them. DON'T LET THEM IN. If you see strangers in the area who appear out of place or suspicious, dial 911 and ask for the Sheriff's Department. Your identity will remain confidential.

Lt. Mike Lombardo
Westside Substation
(408) 867-9715

TOWN OF LOS ALTOS HILLS
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